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18 Field Hospital

1. In mid-January 1952 the 18 Field Hospital, North Korean army, was attached to a front line unit of the North Korean Army in Hoeyang-myon (127-41, 38-42) (CT-8684). The hospital was staffed with 308 persons. Of this number 16 were surgeons, 30 were assistants, and 195 were nurses.
2. The director of the hospital was Colonel KIM Ch'i-ch'on, a native of North Hamgyong Province. The chief surgeon was a lieutenant colonel. The hospital was organized into nine sections, a dispensary office, and a section of general affairs. The heads of the first and sixth sections were Lieutenant Colonel KIM In-hyok and Major KANG Su-song, respectively. The heads of the other sections were either lieutenant colonels or majors in rank. The offices of these sections were in underground trenches near a village in the area. The sick wards were established in village houses left vacant when the dwellers abandoned them during the United Nations offensive of July 1951.
3. Some statistics on the personnel of the hospital were as follows:

Doctors : Fifty percent of the doctors were graduates of KIM Il-song University. Thirty percent were drafted from civilian hospitals in North Korea, and the remaining 20 percent were drafted in Seoul during the North Korean occupation of that city.

Assistants : Forty percent of the assistants had been undergraduates at KIM Il-song University. Thirty percent were drafted from

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civilian hospitals in North Korea, and the other 30 percent were drafted from medical colleges in Seoul during the North Korean occupation.

Nurses : Four-fifths of the nurses were drafted from schools and civilian hospitals in Seoul during the North Korean occupation. The others were drafted from civilian hospitals in North Korea.

4. On 20 December 1951 there were 520 patients at the 18 Field Hospital. At that time 20 to 30 patients a day were being admitted to the hospital. The hospital treated slightly wounded men; those patients with serious wounds were treated at the 52 Army Hospital¹ at Sogwangsa. The 18 Field Hospital received its medical supplies from the 34 Army Hospital, a Soviet Red Cross hospital, in Yangdok. Nevertheless, the 18 Field Hospital was in great need of medical supplies in mid-January 1952, and was forced to use home-spun cotton for bandages instead of gauze.
5. Vehicles attached to the hospital were two jeeps, one Soviet 3/4 ton ambulance, and one 2½ ton truck.

Other Army Hospitals

6. Three other hospitals under the North Korean Army in mid-January 1952 were the following:
 - a. The 19 Army Hospital in Yongsong (125-47, 39-07) (YD-4133) was staffed with 220 persons.
 - b. The 34 Army Hospital² in Yangdok (126-38, 39-13) (BU-9643) was staffed with 110 persons. Of this number 80 were Soviet doctors and nurses, most of whom were from Kazakhstan in the Soviet Union.
 - c. The 526 Army Hospital in Sogwangsa (127-22, 39-00) (CU-5918) was attached to a front line unit. It was staffed with 25 surgeons, 50 assistants, 120 nurses, and 15 other employees.

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1. Comment. Probably the 526 Army Hospital mentioned in paragraph 6-c.
2. Comment. This hospital may possibly be the same as the North Korean 36 Field Hospital at Yangdok

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